**ECONOMIC INDICATORS, QUEENSLAND, FEBRUARY 1995****MAIN FEATURES**

- The provisional trend estimate for the Australian current account deficit in December 1994 increased \$81m to -\$2,113m, a rise of 4% over the November 1994 figure of -\$2,032m. This is the eleventh consecutive deterioration in the current account and is the largest deficit on record. The deterioration in the current account deficit since January 1994 has been caused by exports remaining relatively flat but merchandise imports continuing to increase.
- Interest rates on housing finance for owner occupation increased for the third time in 4 months from 8.75% in August 1994 to 10.5% in December 1994. Total bank deposits in Australia increased for the fourth consecutive month to \$32,875m in November 1994, 10.8% higher than November 1993. During January 1995, the Australian dollar depreciated 3.0% against the trade weighted index of Australia's major trading partners, 2.4% against the \$US and 3.6% against the Japanese yen.
- Queensland's trend estimate unemployment rate for total persons has continued to decline since September 1993, the January 1995 rate of 8.6% well below the January 1994 rate of 10.2%. The provisional trend estimate for labour force participation has remained steady, increasing from 63.9% in January 1994 to 64.0% in January 1995.
- The Brisbane All Groups Consumer Price Index increased 1.1% between September and December quarters 1994, resulting in an annual increase of 3.2% from December quarter 1993 to December quarter 1994. This was higher than the annual Australian All Groups Consumer Price Index which increased 2.5% from December quarter 1993 to December quarter 1994. Contributing most to the annual increase in the Brisbane All Groups Consumer Price Index were Health and Personal Care which increased 6.6% and Housing which increased 4.2%.
- The provisional trend estimate for total dwelling unit approvals in Queensland fell 3.9% from 4,087 in September quarter 1994 to 3,928 in December quarter 1994.
- Consumer demand in Queensland is easing. Growth in the Queensland retail trade trend estimate eased significantly from strong growth of around 1.1% per month in mid-1994 to 0.2% in December 1994. The Queensland trend estimate for total new motor vehicle registrations has remained flat over the 6 months from 10,061 in June 1994 to 10,226 in December 1994 but has increased 15.3% from December 1993 to December 1994.

Statistics shown in this publication are the latest available at the date of preparation. In a number of cases, figures appearing in this summary are preliminary and are subject to revision in subsequent issues. Reference should therefore always be made to the latest issue, or to the statistical publication on the specific subject when figures are not shown.

Current publications produced by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) are listed in the *Catalogue of*

*Publications and Products* (1101.0). The ABS also issues the *Publications Advice* (1105.0) on Tuesdays and Fridays which lists publications to be released in the next few days. Both the Catalogue and the *Publications Advice* are available from any ABS office.

For detailed explanatory notes and definitions for the items shown in this publication, readers are referred to the specific publications which are listed in this issue.

**R. A. Crockett**  
**DEPUTY COMMONWEALTH STATISTICIAN**

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**BRISBANE Q 4000**  
17 February 1995

**INQUIRIES**

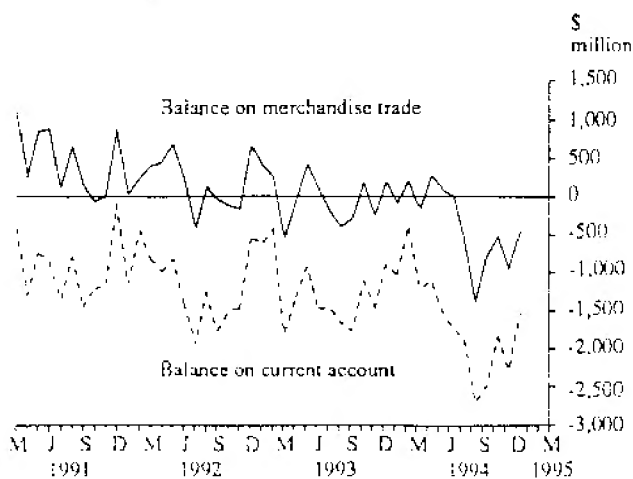
- for further information about statistics in this publication and the availability of related unpublished statistics, contact Information Inquiries on Brisbane (07) 222 6351.
- for information about other ABS statistics and services write to Information Inquiries, Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), GPO Box 9817, Brisbane Q 4001.

## AGGREGATE INDICATORS

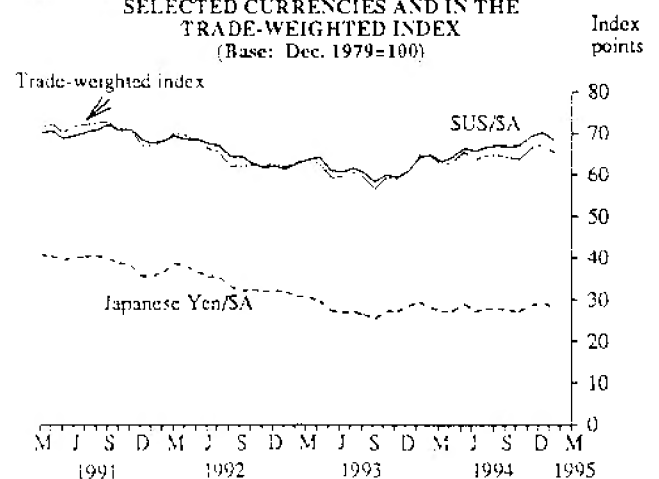
Indicator		Latest period	Latest figure	Figures for preceding three periods			Figure one year ago	Percentage change over year
				One period ago	Two periods ago	Three periods ago		
		1994						%
Balance of payments, Australia								
Exports	\$m	December	5,460	5,720	5,744	5,283	5,474	-0.3
Imports	\$m	December	5,918	6,674	6,262	6,068	5,287	+11.9
Balance on merchandise trade	\$m	December	-458	-954	-518	-785	187	..
Balance on goods and services	\$m	December	-432	-1,027	-601	-1,214	239	..
Net income and unrequited transfers	\$m	December	-1,099	-1,257	-1,228	-1,270	-1,127	..
Balance on current account	\$m	December	-1,531	-2,284	-1,829	-2,484	-888	..
Trade and foreign investment								
Foreign trade, Queensland								
Imports	\$m	December	628.0	663.0	683.4	690.9	563.3	+11.5
Exports	\$m	November	1,076.1	1,165.0	1,117.9	1,160.3	1,093.1	-1.6
Foreign investment in Australia								
Official	\$m	Sept. qtr	1,690	-2,497	2,501	4,585	2,297	..
Non-official	\$m	Sept. qtr	1,191	4,422	5,552	816	3,466	..
Export Price Index: All groups (Base: 1989-90 = 100.0)	Index No.	November	92.7	92.7	91.0	90.0	93.5	-0.9
Import Price Index: All groups (Base: 1989-90 = 100.0)	Index No.	November	112.7	113.4	113.2	113.2	118.2	-4.7
National accounts, Australia, (current prices, trend)								
Final consumption expenditure								
Private	\$m	Sept. qtr	68,718	67,712	66,678	65,652	64,747	+6.1
Government	\$m	Sept. qtr	19,699	19,675	19,415	19,031	18,837	+4.6
Gross fixed capital expenditure	\$m	Sept. qtr	23,911	22,774	21,667	20,768	20,254	+18.1
Exports of goods and services	\$m	Sept. qtr	20,700	20,627	20,560	20,461	20,131	-2.8
Imports of goods and services	\$m	Sept. qtr	22,584	21,650	20,998	20,778	20,622	+9.5
Gross Domestic Product (Income)	\$m	Sept. qtr	112,075	109,645	107,271	105,345	104,104	+7.7
State accounts, Queensland, (current prices, trend)								
Final consumption expenditure	\$m	Sept. qtr	14,351	14,129	13,878	13,592	13,398	+7.1
Gross fixed capital expenditure	\$m	Sept. qtr	4,898	4,527	4,152	3,930	3,897	+25.7
State final demand	\$m	Sept. qtr	19,249	18,656	18,030	17,522	17,295	+11.3
Gross State Product (Income)	\$m	Sept. qtr	18,262	17,850	17,435	17,084	16,820	+8.6
		1995						
Exchange rate levels at end of period (a)								
\$US/\$A		January	0.7583	0.7768	0.7674	0.7422	0.7112	+6.6
Yen/\$A		January	74.75	77.56	75.93	72.25	78.11	-4.3
Trade-weighted index of value of \$A (Base: May 1970 = 100.0)		January	54.5	56.2	55.5	53.1	54.0	+0.9

(a) Source: Reserve Bank of Australia. .. not applicable

BALANCE OF PAYMENTS, AUSTRALIA



MOVEMENT OF THE AUSTRALIAN DOLLAR AGAINST SELECTED CURRENCIES AND IN THE TRADE-WEIGHTED INDEX (Base: Dec. 1979=100)

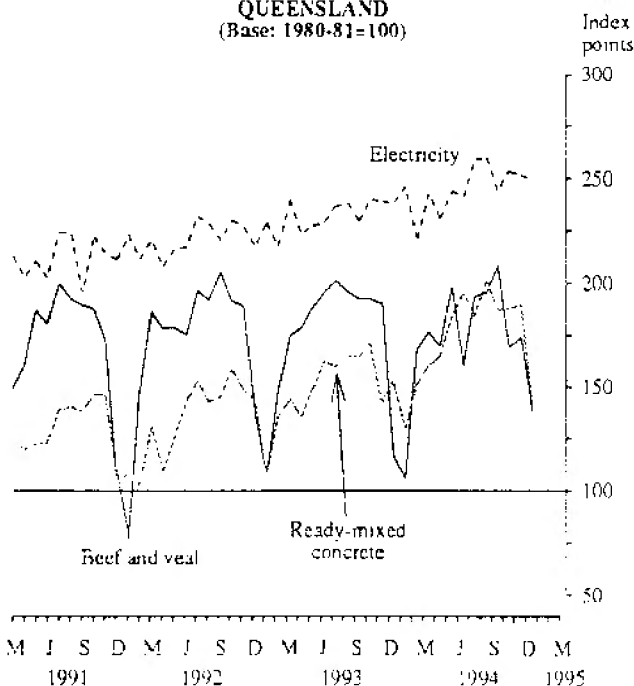


## PRODUCTION

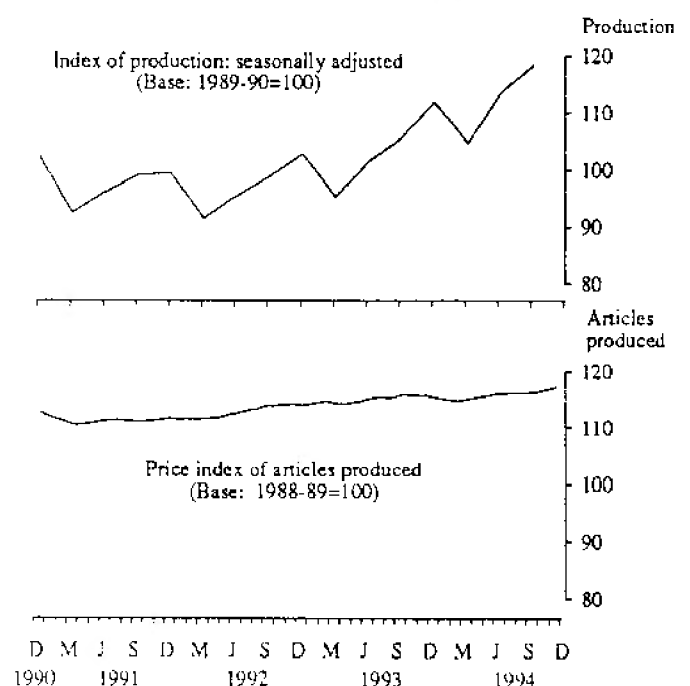
Indicator		Latest period	Latest figure	Figures for preceding three periods			Figure one year ago	Percentage change over year
				One period ago	Two periods ago	Three periods ago		
1994								
Selected production statistics, <i>Queensland</i>								
Black coal (saleable) (a)	'000 tonnes	Sept. qtr	24,898	21,441	20,066	21,726	22,372	+11.3
Log timber processed (b)	'000 cu m	Sept. qtr	506.1	397.7	462.0	418.2	454.5	+11.4
Clay bricks	'000	December	26,287	33,915	32,359	32,319	25,330	+3.8
Electricity generated	m kWh	December	2,785.1	2,810.2	2,834.0	2,727.9	2,662.0	+4.6
Beef and veal (c)	'000 tonnes	December	50.2	63.2	61.3	75.5	42.3	+18.5
Wheaten flour	tonnes	December	17,467	20,765	19,294	20,184	18,776	-7.0
Ready-mixed concrete	'000 cu m	December	338.7	449.6	445.3	444.1	339.0	-0.1
Quarterly index of manufacturing production, <i>Australia</i> (Base: 1989-90 = 100.0)								
Food, beverages and tobacco	Index No.	Sept. qtr	130.5	122.3	118.2	127.4	117.4	+11.2
Chemicals, petroleum and coal products	Index No.	Sept. qtr	117.9	118.7	111.3	114.8	111.7	+5.6
Basic metal products	Index No.	Sept. qtr	114.4	112.5	103.7	114.1	107.7	+6.2
Transport equipment	Index No.	Sept. qtr	123.3	127.9	100.7	101.1	103.1	+19.6
Total manufacturing	Index No.	Sept. qtr	118.5	113.5	104.6	111.8	105.5	+12.3
Price indexes of articles produced by manufacturing industry, <i>Australia</i> (Base: 1988-89 = 100.0)								
Food, beverages and tobacco	Index No.	November	122.0	121.5	121.2	120.4	120.6	+1.2
Basic metal products	Index No.	November	105.5	104.0	102.1	100.9	100.1	+5.4
Transport equipment	Index No.	November	120.5	120.3	120.2	120.6	118.6	+1.6
Other machinery and equipment	Index No.	November	110.8	110.9	110.5	110.1	109.8	+0.9
All groups	Index No.	November	117.3	116.8	116.3	116.2	115.8	+1.3
Price indexes of materials used in manufacturing industry, <i>Australia</i> (Base: 1984-85 = 100.0)								
Imported	Index No.	November	134.0	133.6	132.1	132.2	135.2	-0.9
Home produced	Index No.	November	120.6	120.6	120.7	122.1	121.1	-0.4
All materials	Index No.	November	125.3	125.1	124.6	125.6	126.0	-0.6

(a) Source: Queensland Coal Board. Periods vary: March and September quarters, 12 weeks; June and December quarters, 14 weeks. (b) Source: Queensland Forestry Service. (c) Including livestock slaughtered on holdings.

INDEX OF VOLUME PRODUCED: SELECTED PRODUCTS, QUEENSLAND (Base: 1980-81=100)



INDEXES OF MANUFACTURING, AUSTRALIA

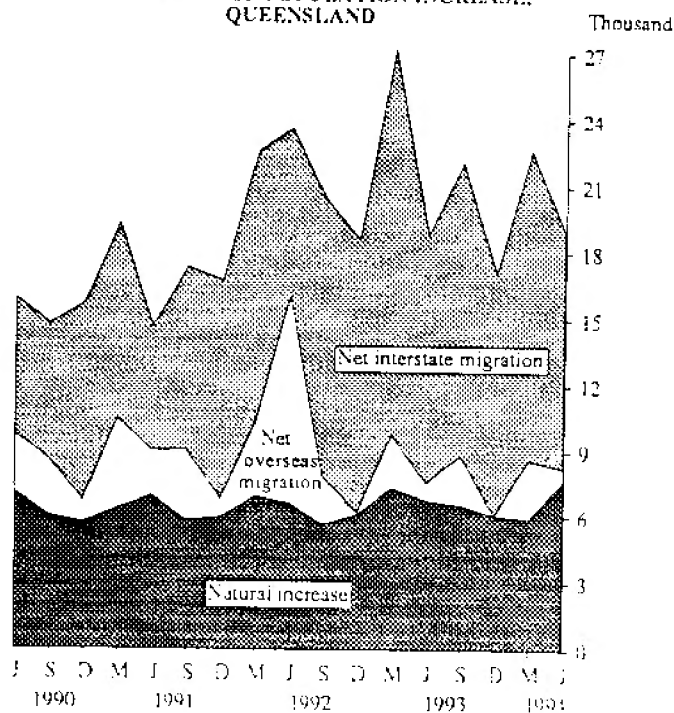


## POPULATION, VITAL AND LABOUR STATISTICS, QUEENSLAND

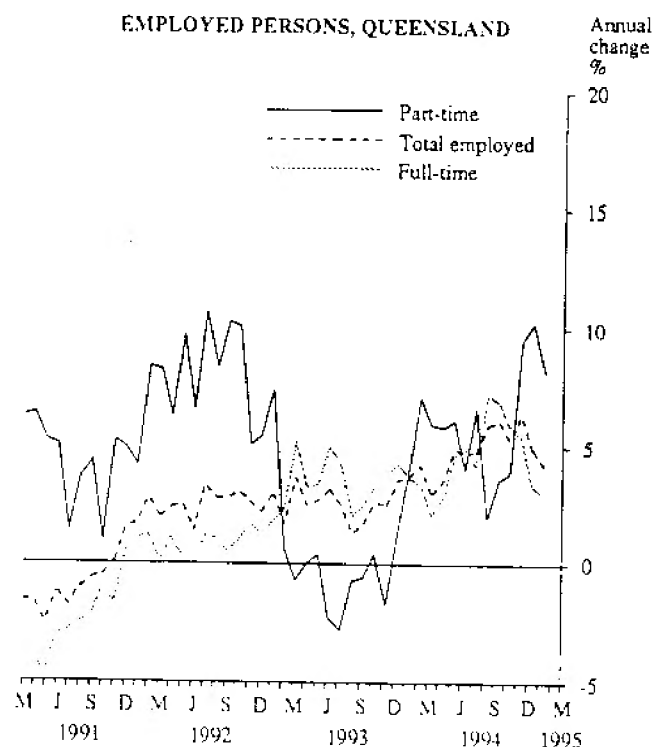
Indicator		Latest period	Latest figure	Figures for preceding three periods			Figure one year ago	Percentage change over year
				One period ago	Two periods ago	Three periods ago		
Estimated resident population at end of period	'000	1994 June qtr	3,196.9	3,177.9	3,155.2	3,138.1	3,116.0	% +2.6
Population increase during period								
Natural increase	No.	June qtr	7,605	5,940	6,095	6,551	6,783	+12.1
Net estimated interstate migration	No.	June qtr	10,751	14,052	11,019	13,244	11,229	-4.3
Net estimated overseas migration	No.	June qtr	647	2,703	—	2,309	-813	..
Total	No.	June qtr	19,003	22,695	17,114	22,104	17,199	+10.5
Short-term overseas movement								
Arrivals	'000	November	113.1	121.3	111.5	109.4	109.7	+3.1
Departures	'000	November	114.7	111.4	112.0	119.6	103.3	+11.0
Civilian population aged 15 years and over	'000	1995 January	2,512.0	2,505.8	2,499.8	2,493.8	2,441.5	+2.9
Persons in the labour force	'000	January	1,592.1	1,621.8	1,605.0	1,594.0	1,556.0	+2.3
Employed persons	'000	January	1,445.6	1,487.3	1,471.5	1,466.7	1,387.4	+4.2
Full-time								
Males	'000	January	759.8	766.2	756.1	757.0	722.8	+5.1
Females	'000	January	344.9	359.3	358.3	359.4	349.6	-1.3
Part-time								
Males	'000	January	77.1	89.5	84.4	88.6	90.7	-15.0
Females	'000	January	263.7	272.3	272.6	261.7	224.4	+17.5
Unemployed persons	'000	January	146.5	134.5	133.5	127.3	168.6	-13.1
Males	'000	January	87.6	77.7	77.0	73.9	101.6	-13.8
Females	'000	January	58.8	56.8	56.6	53.4	66.9	-12.1
Unemployment rate								
Males	%	January	9.5	8.3	8.4	8.0	11.1	..
Females	%	January	8.8	8.3	8.2	7.9	10.4	..
Persons	%	January	9.2	8.3	8.3	8.0	10.8	..
Persons aged 15 to 19 years	%	January	21.0	20.2	17.9	16.7	24.6	..

.. not applicable — nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

COMPONENTS OF POPULATION INCREASE, QUEENSLAND



EMPLOYED PERSONS, QUEENSLAND

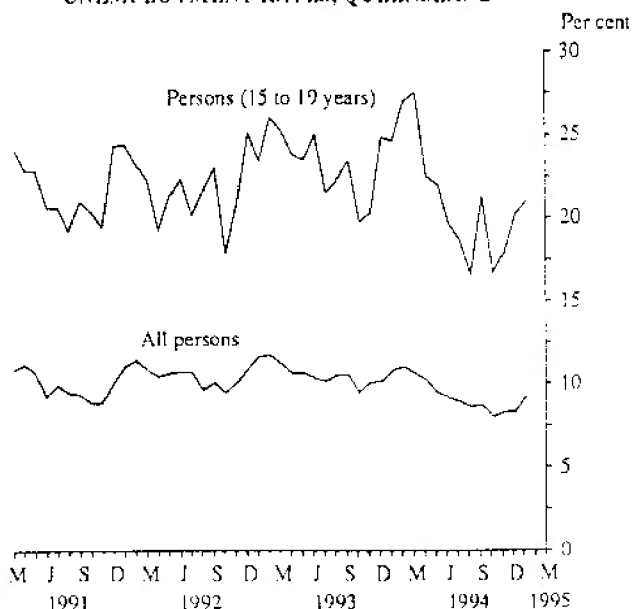


## LABOUR STATISTICS, QUEENSLAND—continued

Indicator		Latest period	Latest figure	Figures for preceding three periods			Figure one year ago	Percentage change over year
				One period ago	Two periods ago	Three periods ago		
1995								
Labour participation rate								%
Males	%	January	74.3	75.2	74.1	74.5	75.7	..
Females	%	January	52.6	54.4	54.5	53.6	52.0	..
Persons	%	January	63.4	64.7	64.2	63.9	63.7	..
1994								
Industry of employed persons (a) (b)								
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	'000	November	85.3	85.9	83.2	78.7	87.2	-2.2
Mining	'000	November	13.2	13.6	17.3	17.3	16.2	-18.5
Manufacturing	'000	November	180.9	174.9	176.4	165.7	169.5	+6.7
Electricity, gas and water supply	'000	November	14.0	16.0	14.0	12.5	13.8	+1.4
Construction	'000	November	142.7	142.6	130.8	130.6	125.2	+14.0
Wholesale trade	'000	November	88.1	83.8	85.5	83.4	84.8	+3.9
Retail trade	'000	November	218.6	217.1	227.0	222.4	219.6	-0.5
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	'000	November	76.1	77.0	72.0	72.3	67.6	+12.6
Transport and storage	'000	November	79.5	75.5	71.9	69.6	71.1	+11.8
Communication services	'000	November	22.0	21.4	19.7	22.3	17.9	+22.9
Finance and insurance	'000	November	44.1	41.7	45.4	48.2	44.0	+0.2
Property and business services	'000	November	134.8	127.8	123.5	117.3	108.1	+24.7
Government administration and defence	'000	November	50.7	45.8	54.2	57.5	65.2	-22.2
Education	'000	November	96.9	98.7	99.5	99.7	104.1	-6.9
Health and community services	'000	November	127.7	126.5	118.9	117.2	113.8	+12.2
Cultural and recreational services	'000	November	33.3	29.8	33.3	30.8	27.4	+21.5
Personal and other services	'000	November	63.5	55.7	50.3	50.4	47.9	+32.6
Total	'000	November	1,471.5	1,433.7	1,423.2	1,396.0	1,383.5	+6.4
Employed wage and salary earners								
Private	'000	June	687.7	685.6	679.7	694.0	660.5	+4.1
Government	'000	June	275.9	271.1	273.1	271.5	282.1	-2.2
Commonwealth	'000	June	44.8	44.7	45.1	44.9	46.8	-4.3
State	'000	June	197.5	192.7	194.6	192.9	199.8	-1.2
Local	'000	June	33.5	33.7	33.4	33.7	35.5	-5.6
Job vacancies (a)	'000	November	9.4	12.8	6.1	6.4	6.3	+49.5
Overtime, average hours per employee (a)	No.	November	1.25	1.31	1.29	0.97	1.26	-1.1
Industrial disputes: Working days lost	'000	October	16.2	3.8	12.8	2.9	6.6	..

(a) Figures collected in a quarterly survey conducted in February, May, August and November. (b) New classification (ANZSIC) replaced previous classification (ASIC) in August 1994. .. not applicable

## UNEMPLOYMENT RATES, QUEENSLAND

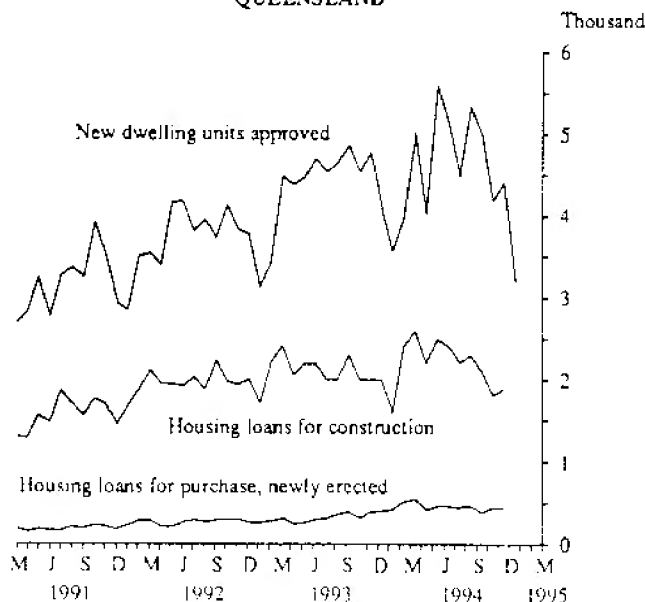


## BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION

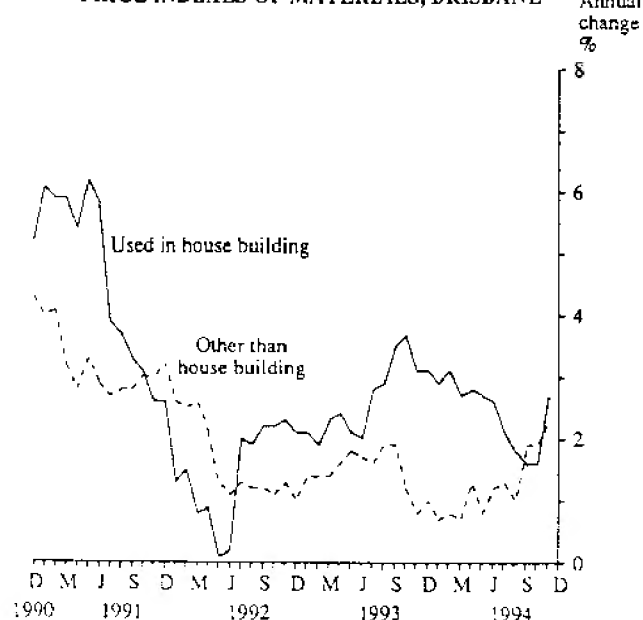
Indicator		Latest period	Latest figure	Figures for preceding three periods			Figure one year ago	Percentage change over year
				One period ago	Two periods ago	Three periods ago		
		1994						%
<b>Selected building statistics, Queensland</b>								
Value of all building approved	\$m	December	408.0	543.3	593.2	566.7	676.4	-39.7
Dwelling units approved								
New houses	No.	December	2,262	2,987	2,917	3,346	2,740	-17.4
New other residential buildings	No.	December	916	1,382	1,250	1,611	1,355	-32.4
Total dwelling units	No.	December	3,206	4,397	4,181	4,986	4,135	-22.5
Total dwelling units (trend estimate)	No.	December	3,928	4,087	4,278	4,467	4,463	-12.0
<b>Dwelling units commenced</b>								
New houses	No.	Sept. qtr	9,684	9,229	8,054	9,140	9,329	+3.8
New other residential buildings	No.	Sept. qtr	5,110	4,386	3,720	4,500	4,728	+8.1
Value of all building commenced	\$m	Sept. qtr	1,816.7	1,659.9	1,576.1	1,552.8	1,516.9	+19.8
<b>Housing finance for owner occupation</b>								
All banks	\$m	November	661.1	605.7	644.5	679.5	626.0	-5.6
Permanent building societies	\$m	November	116.8	109.0	121.9	134.2	123.1	-5.1
Other lenders	\$m	November	14.7	16.6	15.5	24.8	16.4	-10.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$m</b>	<b>November</b>	<b>792.6</b>	<b>731.4</b>	<b>782.0</b>	<b>838.5</b>	<b>765.5</b>	<b>+3.5</b>
<b>Interest rates on new housing loans:</b>								
All banks (a)	%	December	10.50	9.55	9.50	9.50	8.75	..
<b>Price indexes, Brisbane</b>								
Materials used in house building (Base: 1985-86 = 100.0)								
All groups	Index No.	November	155.9	154.8	154.0	153.5	151.8	+2.7
Materials used in building other than house building (Base: 1989-90 = 100.0)								
Ready-mixed concrete	Index No.	November	116.3	116.9	116.8	116.4	113.4	+2.6
Structural steel	Index No.	November	126.5	123.1	123.1	122.5	116.4	+8.7
All groups	Index No.	November	112.2	111.9	111.7	111.1	109.7	+2.3

(a) Source: Reserve Bank of Australia. .. not applicable

NEW DWELLINGS AND LOANS APPROVED, QUEENSLAND



PRICE INDEXES OF MATERIALS, BRISBANE

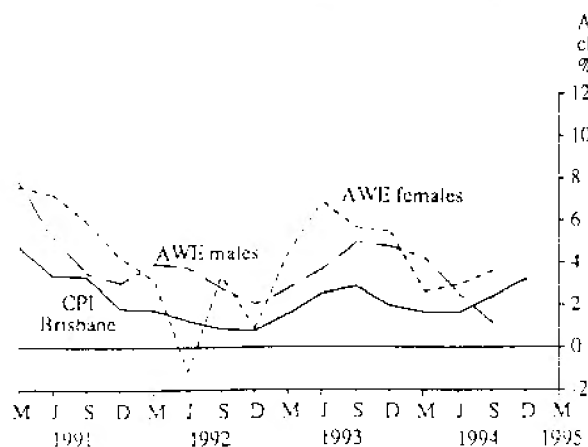


## PRICES, WAGES AND CONSUMER SPENDING

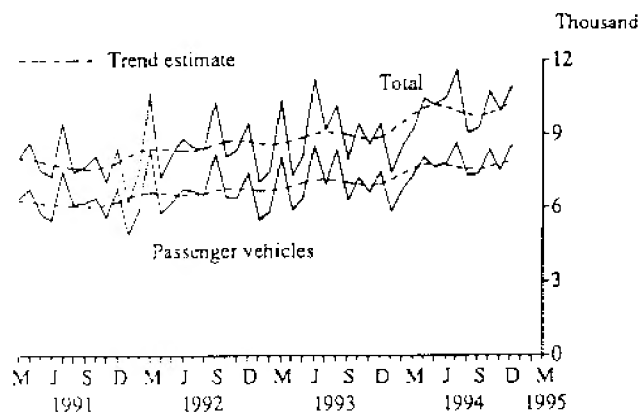
Indicator			Figures for preceding three periods					Figure one year ago	Percentage change over year
	Latest period		Latest figure	One period ago	Two periods ago	Three periods ago			
	1994							%	
Consumer Price Index, <i>Brisbane</i> (Base: 1989-90 = 100.0)									
Food	Index No.	Dec. qtr	111.0	110.7	110.2	111.2	110.1	+0.8	
Housing	Index No.	Dec. qtr	104.0	101.1	100.7	100.1	99.8	+4.2	
Transportation	Index No.	Dec. qtr	115.4	115.3	113.8	112.0	112.3	+2.8	
All groups (a)	Index No.	Dec. qtr	113.7	112.5	111.5	110.8	110.2	+3.2	
Average weekly earnings (full-time adult ordinary time), <i>Queensland</i> (b)									
Males	\$	August	610.20	616.90	615.60	613.50	603.40	+1.1	
Females	\$	August	530.50	516.00	515.80	509.70	511.90	+3.6	
Index of weekly award rates of pay, <i>Queensland</i> (Base: June 1985 = 100.0)									
Full-time adult employees									
Males	Index No.	November	141.8	141.8	141.7	141.7	140.0	+1.3	
Females	Index No.	November	143.9	143.9	143.7	143.7	141.6	+1.6	
Retail trade, <i>Queensland</i>									
Current prices									
Original series	\$m	December	2,253.6	1,762.0	1,733.8	1,695.4	2,129.2	+5.8	
Trend estimate	\$m	December	1,720.0	1,716.2	1,709.7	1,699.5	1,584.2	+8.6	
Short-term accommodation, <i>Queensland</i>									
Licensed hotels, motels, etc. with facilities (c)									
Rooms available	'000	Sept. qtr	40.4	40.2	40.1	40.1	40.0	+0.9	
Room nights occupied	'000	Sept. qtr	2,555.5	2,201.9	2,140.8	2,310.7	2,419.4	+5.6	
Room occupancy rate	%	Sept. qtr	68.9	60.2	59.4	62.6	65.7	..	
Takings from accommodation	\$m	Sept. qtr	222.6	190.5	190.6	203.4	195.5	+13.8	
Self-contained units, flats and houses									
Units available	'000	Sept. qtr	17.4	16.7	16.3	16.6	16.2	+7.5	
Unit nights occupied	'000	Sept. qtr	1,138.0	768.0	862.9	902.0	1,062.7	+7.1	
Unit occupancy rate	%	Sept. qtr	71.2	50.7	58.8	59.1	71.3	..	
Takings from accommodation	\$m	Sept. qtr	66.6	42.8	55.7	54.1	57.5	+15.9	
New motor vehicle registrations, <i>Queensland</i>									
Passenger vehicles (d)	No.	December	8,540	7,462	8,375	7,352	7,495	+13.9	
Total (e)	No.	December	10,918	9,910	10,762	9,230	9,421	+15.9	
Seasonally adjusted									
Passenger vehicles (d)	No.	December	8,076	7,424	8,462	6,957	6,587	+22.6	
Total (e)	No.	December	10,628	9,769	10,724	8,993	8,506	+24.9	
Trend estimate									
Passenger vehicles (d)	No.	December	7,869	7,747	7,615	7,527	6,941	+13.4	
Total (e)	No.	December	10,226	10,029	9,826	9,707	8,870	+15.3	

(a) Including also: clothing; household equipment and operation; tobacco and alcohol; health and personal care and recreation and education. (b) The last pay period ending on or before the third Friday of the month shown. Collected February, May, August and November. (c) From December quarter 1993, hotel, motel and guest house establishments with fewer than five rooms have been formally excluded from the scope of this statistical collection. (d) Formerly 'Cars and station wagons'. (e) Excluding motor cycles, plant, equipment and trailers. .. not applicable

## PRICES AND EARNINGS, QUEENSLAND



## NEW MOTOR VEHICLES REGISTERED, QUEENSLAND



## BANKING AND FINANCE, QUEENSLAND

Indicator	Latest period	Latest figure	Figures for preceding three periods			Figure one year ago	Percentage change over year
			One period ago	Two periods ago	Three periods ago		
	1994						%
All banks (a)							
Total deposits	\$m November	32,875	32,735	32,158	31,321	29,664	+10.8
Term deposits (b)	\$m November	15,645	15,400	14,562	14,054	13,445	+16.4
Other deposits	\$m November	17,230	17,335	17,596	17,267	16,219	+6.2
Other lending (c)	\$m November	39,731	39,080	38,457	38,257	33,449	+18.8
Building societies							
Lending operations							
Loans advanced	\$m November	144.2	144.3	153.4	156.1	136.6	+5.6
Lending commitments unused	\$m November	213.5	215.1	227.0	238.0	205.5	+3.9
Borrowing operations							
Receipts	\$m November	1,890.0	1,850.4	1,815.2	1,919.4	1,623.6	+16.4
Withdrawals	\$m November	1,865.2	1,812.0	1,869.0	1,841.4	1,511.9	+23.4
Personal finance commitments							
All banks	\$m November	293.4	261.7	280.3	297.9	249.7	+17.5
Credit cooperatives	\$m November	38.7	34.4	36.1	34.5	34.4	+12.5
Finance companies	\$m November	94.9	89.9	87.9	96.3	94.0	+1.0
Other	\$m November	13.8	17.1	11.9	10.6	10.0	+38.0
Total	\$m November	440.7	403.2	416.1	439.3	388.2	+13.5
Commercial finance commitments							
All banks	\$m November	988.6	841.2	770.5	1,144.2	827.7	+19.4
Finance companies	\$m November	170.3	172.3	136.5	164.2	125.7	+35.5
Other	\$m November	73.2	65.2	88.7	71.4	56.9	+28.6
Total	\$m November	1,232.2	1,078.7	995.6	1,379.9	1,010.3	+22.0
Lease finance commitments	\$m November	119.6	119.2	109.9	115.3	98.5	+21.4

(a) Source: Reserve Bank of Australia. (b) Including certificates of deposit. (c) Excluding public sector securities held by banks and commercial lending through intermediaries.

